

THE ALMA RECORD

VOL. XLII.—NO. 28

\$2.00 the year—5c the copy

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1920

TWELVE PAGES

WHOLE NUMBER 2168

GOOD WATER IS COMMUNITY NEED

Growth of Cities Very Often Hurt or Retarded By Its Lack.

RIVER WATER IS POLLUTED

Present Day Standards of Living Demand That It Shall Be Pure and Wholesome.

Probably the greatest problem that has confronted the people of the City of Alma and particularly the city fathers for the past few years has been the solution of the water supply problem which is one that must be solved for the present if the City expects to grow and attract people from other cities that are used to the present standard of living elsewhere.

There is no question but that the water supply of cities is one of the most difficult and one of the earliest problems that every growing community has to meet. It has always been so and always will because it is not a problem that will stay solved, the conditions of supply and demand always making some change necessary.

Many cities have stopped growing because of no satisfactory water supply, and some of them owe their slow growth more to poor water supply than any other condition.

The old argument that John Smith has drunk Pine River water for the past forty years and is not dead yet, does not hold good any longer, because if John Smith wanted to do that, he was surely welcome but the standards of today require something better and the people expect to get it and pay for it.

Standards of living are getting more exact. New standards are coming up every year. Things that satisfied ten years ago do not satisfy any longer.

It was estimated a few years ago that were all the polluted water supplies of the country efficiently purified it would save at least 3,000 lives every year from typhoid fever alone. Many intestinal diseases are traceable direct to the water supply.

Water supply from a river gradually grows worse as the drainage district is built up and occupied and the drains and ditches are opened up, as all the pollution that used to stay on the ground and be purified by the sun rays, now comes direct into the river and is carried down. This of course changes with the advance of civilization and is to be welcomed and met at such price as we have to pay. The price is returned many times over.

Of all the necessities of life, we can least of all do without or suspend the water supply.

If there is a street car strike and the cars stop, we call in the jitney and get along. If the gas fails we fire up the old stove or get a kerosene stove. If the electricity fails we get out the old lamp and suffer the inconvenience but get along just the same.

But if the water supply should stop, think not only of the great inconvenience but of the great damage that might result in all directions. The consumer in a present day city gives little thought to the intricate nature of the system that enables him to draw a glass of drinking water from the faucet or put on the hose to sprinkle his lawn or garden. He does not know that the faucet is placed there for his convenience and that the water is under pressure and that it fulfills its general purpose well.

He knows that the water comes from a pipe in the street and is pumped from the water works. Often he has no idea where the water comes from or whether there is an unlimited supply or not.

He may not know nor care whether the supply is polluted or not and could hardly guess whether the supply comes through a pipe as long as the arm or as big as a barrel and it matters not so long as he is able to draw it from the faucet.

And so it goes through the entire system, the average consumer's interest is usually small and his faith quite unconsciously placed in the engineer or perhaps he does not know that there is such a person but he has a vague idea that somebody is guiding the business right and providing him with sufficient water for his own individual use.

This is not entirely true with all the people, as there are many who are interested sufficiently to take an active part in the publicity and co-operation necessary to help make a community worth living in and helping solve the problems that come up and require good intelligent citizen interest to help put them over.

There is a wide variety of problems in providing a suitable supply of water. The unending task of maintenance and providing for the new extensions necessary for a growing city and also the matter of providing fire protection each of which offers its own difficulties with a public service of this kind.

A large part of the cost of providing and furnishing water to the community cannot be seen and is not (Continued on page four)

SEVERAL INJURED

Alma Girl and Former College People In Accident At Caro.

Last Friday while driving from Caro City to Caro to attend a teachers' institute, an automobile in which Miss Helen Grimm of this city, Edwin Boyne and Violet Elliott, former college students, all of them instructors in the schools in Caro City, were riding, went into a ditch near Caro, and all of the occupants were injured.

The driver of the auto suffered from a broken back and died soon after. Miss Helen Grimm of this city was severely injured, and was unconscious for nearly twenty-four hours after the accident took place. Edwin Boyne and Miss Elliott, both well known here, were badly cut about the head.

Mrs. Watkins of this city, mother of Miss Grimm, was called to Caro and is still there caring for her daughter, who is still in critical condition. Mr. Watkins left yesterday for Caro and it is expected that they will return to Alma with Miss Grimm the latter part of the week, if her condition is such as to permit the trip.

PROVING ATTRACTIVE

Manual Training Class in High School Shows Big Growth.

That the manual training class of Alma High School is proving one of the most popular in the school, is being made evident in the large increase in the enrollment for this course, there being practically an eightfold increase in slightly over a year's time.

When George Mullin assumed charge of this department a year ago in September, less than a score of young men in the high school were availing themselves of the advantages that the manual training class offered. This week the enrollment had increased to 168.

There has been some big changes in the department itself during this time, new workbenches having been installed, additional tools purchased, and new machinery secured. This week two new lathes are being installed, that should aid in making the training course still more popular with the young men of the high school.

FERRIS GAVE GOOD

ADDRESS IN ALMA

Democrat Candidate Gave Defense For League In Speech Thursday.

On Thursday afternoon of last week, Woodbridge N. Ferris, twice governor of Michigan, and once again a candidate on the Democrat ticket for the highest office that is within the gift of the people of the commonwealth of Michigan, gave a good address to a large crowd gathered in the Strand theatre.

Arriving in Alma shortly after noon on Thursday Mr. Ferris was met at the depot by scores of Alma's Democrats, who paraded through the business section of the city to the theatre, attracting the attention of some hundreds of people. The Alma Masonic band furnished the music for the occasion.

DeWitt Vaughn, for many years one of the most active members of the party in Gratiot county, and chairman of the Cox-Roosevelt-Ferris Club of Gratiot county, introduced the speaker of the day.

Mr. Ferris opened his address with a strong defense for the League of Nations, and paid particular attention to Article X, which has, since the time that the league and peace treaty were first submitted to the Senate, been a much mooted proposition. In his discussion he gave the League of Nations his endorsement.

During the address Mr. Ferris deplored the fact that the covenant had been brought into the political campaign, as a political football. He also brought out during the discussion, that had been in Wilson's place, he would have accepted the reservations that the Republicans would have imposed on the League of Nations.

Following his defense of the league he turned his attention to the huge affairs, calling attention to the huge Republican majority in Michigan, and to the fact that thousands of Republicans must vote for him again if he is to be elected as governor of Michigan. He gave promise of an economical administration, should the people of Michigan by their votes in November decide that he should be Michigan's next governor.

PLEA IS GRANTED

A recent plea of the Union Telephone company made to the Michigan Public Utilities Commission has been granted, the commission issuing an order, that empowers the company to charge ten per cent additional on all telephone bills that are not paid within twenty days after the first day of the month on which the bills are rendered. In case any subscriber is in default of payment for a period of sixty days the telephone company is authorized to discontinue service and remove the telephone. If the telephone company in this case has gone to the premises to remove the telephone, and the subscriber then offers to pay his bill and the penalty charge, he will also be required to pay a service charge of \$5.00. The order is dated as effective, October 1.

ALMA PHYSICIAN IN BAD ACCIDENT

Dr. Lamb Had Narrow Escape Tuesday When P. M. Passenger Hit His Car.

AUTOMOBILE WAS WRECKED

Doctors Report That He Is Out Of Danger But Is Painfully Injured.

Dr. E. T. Lamb, one of Alma's most prominent physicians, was struck by the east bound Pere Marquette passenger train Tuesday noon, at the Republic avenue railroad crossing, while driving in his automobile. Those who saw the accident hurried to the scene expecting to find his lifeless remains near the track, but found that he was alive, but unconscious.

An ambulance was quickly called and he was hurried to the hospital. Before the hospital was reached he had recovered consciousness, and was able to walk into the building, although still badly dazed from the terrible shock that he had undergone.

The physicians of the city hurried to the hospital, and following a thorough examination it was reported that no bones were broken, but that Lamb was suffering from bad bruises, and cuts about the head, and that he was also suffering considerably from the shock of the accident. It is now hoped that he will soon be able to be about again and to resume his practice.

The enclosed car that Dr. Lamb was driving was totally wrecked, and thrown to the right of way near the track. Hundreds of Alma people went to Republic avenue shortly after the accident, but none of them, after seeing the wrecked automobile could figure how it was possible that a person driving the car could avoid very serious injury or worse. Dr. Lamb's escape is nothing short of a miracle.

Dr. Lamb had stopped his car for a freight at the crossing. He then started the car again, drove across the side track onto the main line, just as the passenger reached the crossing. Because of the freight he was in no position to see the passenger train, it is said.

When the news of the accident first flashed through the city, it came as a distinct shock to Alma people, whose minds were still fresh with the recent accident near Merrill, which caused the death of one of Alma's most prominent residents, and it was with genuine relief that it was learned that the injuries were not of a highly serious nature.

M. A. C. WINS

Alma Line Offers No Opposition to Veteran Aggie Team.

Alma was trounced 48 to 0 yesterday in the opening football game of the season by the veteran Michigan Aggie eleven, which found the Alma line inexperienced and without a proper knowledge of the game. Once on the field the collegians seemed to forget even the little that they knew of football, and played as eleven individuals rather than a team.

Alma looked good at the outset of the game, the Farmers being able to chase the pigskin over the goal only once in each of the first two quarters, the score being 14 to 0 when the half ended. In the second half Coach Clark started sending fresh men against the Alma team, and wore it down, and scored almost at will in the second half.

There were two pleasing features in the game from an Alma standpoint, that speak well for the future of the season. The men showed clearly that they could fight. Once M. A. C. planted the oval a foot from the goal on a first down, and was forced to use all four downs to gain that foot. Another time the Aggies had only four yards, and needed the four downs for the touchdown. The other feature is the condition that the men showed. Time and again M. A. C. took out time, but only once during the entire game was time taken out for an Alma man.

Alma did not make a first down against the Aggies, except on penalties. The line on offense, set the Farmers afoot through and the backfield never got a chance to get underway. This made it necessary to get punts away in a hurry, resulting in poor kicks.

The score that the Aggies rolled up, does not represent the true strength of the eleven at that, as two of the touchdowns that the Farmers made in the second half came on intercepted Alma passes.

RESIGNS AS PRESIDENT

Dr. Thomas J. Carney, president of the Gratiot County Good Health Society, has resigned as the head of this organization because of the stress of his private practice. During the time that he has been connected with the Good Health Society he has done much to make the organization the success that it has been. While he has found it necessary to resign as president of the organization, he expects to continue to co-operate with it, in every way possible.

Best Candies—DeLuxe—77-t-e

FOLKERT DEAD

Former County Treasurer Died Saturday After Long Illness.

Willard C. Folkert, one of the best known residents of the eastern part of Gratiot county, and a former county treasurer, died at his home in Wheeler Saturday morning.



WILLARD C. FOLKERT

Willard C. Folkert had been prominent in Gratiot county Republican politics for a number of years, and two years ago was elected as treasurer of the county. Very soon after taking office ill health caused him to resign from the place to which he had been elected by the people of Gratiot county, and he retired to his home at Wheeler, hoping that his health might return. He never entirely recovered from the illness which had afflicted him, and last Saturday passed away.

Before being elected as county treasurer, he had been the supervisor of Wheeler township for a number of years. In 1911, 1912 and 1913 he was elected as township clerk, and in 1909 and 1910 served as township treasurer.

OWOSSO HIGH WINS

VERDICT OVER ALMA

Mullin's Men Loose Hard Fought Battle By A 6 to 0 Score Friday.

Owosso high school won a hotly contested game from the local aggregation Friday by a score of 6 to 0, a fumbled punt paving the way for the visitors' touchdown.

Alma, on a comparative score basis, was not conceded a chance to win the game as Owosso had previously won from Ithaca 60 to 0 and Ithaca in turn had defeated the high school gridders 2 to 0. During the past week, however, Coaches Mullin and French worked wonders with the eleven, and when it went into the fray, it went in with the determination that is needed to carry a team through to victory.

Owosso was outplayed during the first half, and several times their goal line was seriously in danger. Alma each time lacked the punch to shove the ball over and Owosso punted out of danger.

In the third quarter Alma continued the pounding tactics that had marked the work of the first half, and again carried the ball far into the Owosso territory. Alma was again held for downs, and Owosso punted to the center of the field. Here came the turning point of the game. The punt was fumbled, and Owosso recovered it. The Almaties became somewhat unsettled, played too high in the line, and Owosso smashed through time and again, carrying the ball within the ten yard line. It took all four downs to smash through the remaining distance for the score. The ball was carried out for the goal kick, but the kick went wide of the posts.

Alma made a vain attempt to come back and tie up the count following the touchdown, and at one time in the final quarter it seemed as though Alma would march almost from her own goal to the visitors' counting station, but after carrying the ball about half the length of the field, it was lost on downs to the visitors.

Every man on the team played a good game, although the new men displayed some of the greenness shown a week ago against Ithaca. On the whole, however, it seemed like a different team entirely than the one that Ithaca had beaten the previous week by a 2 to 0 score. Handley, Elias, and S. Sartor were the biggest ground gainers for the Alma team.

Quarters 1 2 3 4

Owosso 0 6 0 0

Alma 0 0 0 0

AUTO RACES

Fast Auto Races Will Be Held in Mt. Pleasant.

That people of Mt. Pleasant and vicinity are to see auto races has never been witnessed in this part of the country, now seems an assured fact. Under the supervision of the Isabella County Fair Association, this big event will be staged at the Mt. Pleasant Fair grounds Saturday afternoon, October 9, beginning at two o'clock.

First—Time trials, one mile each. Second—Ford race with eliminations.

Third—Free for all. An opportunity is here offered to see in action some of the best drivers in the state of Michigan. One thing certain, these races will not be a walk away for anyone, and Pernetto, Wilcox and Baker must display rare form to get away with the spoils this time.

Buy the best—buy DeLuxe—77-t-e

SUGAR FACTORY RUN IS STARTED

Campaign Is Expected To Be The Longest In History Of The Plant.

BEET ACREAGE IS VERY LARGE

Operations Started This Morning And Should Continue Until January.

The Alma Plant of the Michigan Sugar Company opened this morning for its annual fall run, with every expectation that the campaign this year will be the longest that the local plant has ever had, and that the largest tonnage that has ever come to the Alma plant will be sliced.

Jotham Allen, manager of the Alma Plant stated Tuesday the company had between 11,000 and 12,000 acres of beets under contract for the local concern, and that the company would slice the largest tonnage this year that it has ever had. An exceptional summer of course, has had much to do with the fine yield and the heavy tonnage that is being obtained this year by the farmers, who have been growing beets. It is believed that the Alma plant will slice about 125,000 tons of sugar beets during the present campaign.

While the price of sugar has slumped considerably during the past few weeks, it is still well above former years, and promises to insure the farmers a fine return on the sugar beets that they have been growing during the summer. On the whole the crop is an exceptionally good one, and there is no question but what the farmers will find the crop a highly profitable one this year.

Manager Allen stated Tuesday that it was expected that the campaign this year would continue until the middle or latter part of January, making one of the longest runs that the company has had in some years.

For some weeks past workmen have been busy at the plant making repairs in view of the approaching run, while tons of limestone, coal, and other materials that must be used in producing sugar from beets, have been unloaded at the plant, in preparation for the big run that is expected.

During the past ten days beets have been coming into the sheds of the plant, both by wagon and by train, and hundreds of tons of beets are now in the sheds waiting to be made into sugar. With a continuation of the present weather during the next few weeks, it is certain that the farmers will be able to harvest their beet crops and to transport the beets to the factory at a minimum cost.

The Alma Plant of the Michigan Sugar Company is putting on about 250 more men than it has had during the summer. During the campaign these men will be paid thousands of dollars, as will the farmers in the vicinity of Alma, a considerable portion of which, it is certain, will find its way into the business channels of the city, making a far better business for the stores of the city, than they have had for some weeks past.

MEET BAY CITY

High Schoolers To Battle Eastern High of That City There.

The local high school football team will play its third game of the season Friday afternoon, when it meets Bay City Eastern High at Bay City, in a game that promises to make the Alma aggregation test some if it expects to win.

One thing is certain and that is that Mullin's gridders are continuing to show improvement. It is not being shown at the remarkable rate of last week, perhaps, but there is every evidence that the improvement is coming this week end and it will be a stronger eleven than ever that takes the field against the Bay City outfit.

The Alma high coaches were highly pleased this week, when a former Owosso high guard and center enrolled in school and turned out Monday night for the team. He hits the scales at 170 pounds, and promises to be a big asset to the team. It is believed that he will be tried out at a tackle job.

The strength of Bay City Eastern is somewhat of a question, but it is probable that the locals will face a strong team, as Eastern last Saturday defeated Vassar by a score of 66 to 6.

MRS. KING AT AMHERST

A new era will begin in the history of the Agricultural college at Amherst, Mass., Thursday, when 50 young women will take full possession of the new dormitories which will then be formally dedicated. The services will begin at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon in Bowker auditorium, with a foreword by Pres. K. L. Butterfield. The program includes an address on "Vocation for women in agriculture," by Mrs. Francis King, Alma, Mich., president of the Women's National Farm and Garden association.

We would be pleased to show you samples of Canaan coal. Brown-Ward Co., phone 27-8011.

NEARLY READY

Big Treat Is Being Promised At The Eastern Star Show.

From the rehearsing that is being done these days at the Masonic hall it appears that the theatre going public at Alma can look forward to a rare treat when Maid O' The Movies, the musical revue to be given by the Eastern Star, is staged here. At least fifty of Alma's talented artists appear at the hall during different hours of the day to go through their parts and sing their songs or do their special dance.

The McKinzie brothers are working up an act that promises to be what is known to the theatrical world as a knock out. When Phil Lewis sings "Please" and introduces his bathing girls he is bound to make a hit, Miss Doris Slingliff will introduce her Japanese girls when she sings "Japanese Sandman" and with the gorgeous costumes that the girls will wear, this number will undoubtedly be one of the big hits of the show. Kismet, one of the season's latest song hits will be elaborately staged with special lighting effects and costumes. The girls who work in this number are being trained to carry out their Arabian ballet to perfection and when given before the Arabian curtain present a beautiful spectacle. When the girls of the pony chorus sing "Whose Baby Are You?" they will have a surprise that will well wait until you see what it is. Quaint old Holland has many pleasing costumes and one of its dances will be staged here when "Garden in Holland" is sung by the Dutch girls of the chorus.

When Molly, Miss Georgia Hood, has a wedding day there is trouble. But this will all be settled to the satisfaction of all concerned when Hutchins, the reformed criminal, played by Chester Robinson, has his wife, Fainting Fanny, return the necklace which caused all the trouble. The Greek Ballet will be the last number in the show and the curtain will be lowered on the tableau picture "The Joy of Youth."

The members of the Eastern Star are busy selling tickets for the production. These tickets may be exchanged for reserved seats at the box office of the Strand theatre after 2 p.m. on Thursday afternoon, October 14th.

ENROLLMENT GOOD AT

THE NIGHT SCHOOL

Prospects For Successful Term Are Reported As Good By School Authorities.

The night school opened Monday evening in the Alma High School building, and classes were organized, which last evening at 7:00 o'clock, started the regular class work, and there is every expectation that the school will meet with a big success this year.

While the number that appeared Monday evening to enroll for the various classes was smaller than expected, it was made clear by those who were present that there were others who desired to take work in the night school, but were unable to be present at that time. Wednesday evening saw a number of these people at the high school to enroll for the class work, and it is expected that Friday evening, and Monday evening of next week will see still more Alma people enrolling to take advantage of the night school. About thirty were on hand for enrollment Monday evening.

Of the courses that are being offered in the night school, the commercial subjects seem to be the greatest in demand, although several others received good enrollments. The courses in manual training, in dressmaking, etc., did not secure enrollment enough at the Monday evening meeting to warrant the starting of classes in this work. It is probable, however, as others express a desire for these courses that the enrollment will be sufficient to warrant the school authorities in starting them.

The authorities of the school seemingly are well pleased at the attitude of those who have so far attended the night school. They are evidently joining the classes for the good that they expect to secure, and not because they regard it simply as a passing fad. This augurs well for the work that will be done in the night school, and the good that it will do in the community.

THE STAR LYCEUM

During the coming winter a rich treat will be provided for all the people in Alma. The Chautauqua-Lyceum Association have succeeded in securing artists for a procession of most desirable and popular entertainments. The pleasure of this course will be very largely enhanced by the numbers being given in the Strand theatre. Through the courtesy of the manager, Mr. C. A. Miller, this building with its adequate stage arrangements and its perfect acoustical properties has been placed at the disposal of the Association. There will be the Paolo Gruppe Co., the Criticism Male Quartette, Leonard Taft, the sculptor, and a company of eminent players producing "The Climax." As these high class and talented performers are being brought here for the benefit and pleasure of all classes the cost of admission is to be put as low as possible. Full particulars will be given through the press later on.

PLENTY OF WORK FOR ALMA VOTERS

Eight Ballots Is All That Will Be Handed Local Residents At Election.

NUMBER SETS RECORD HERE

Five Proposed State Amendments, Regular Ticket And Two Local Propositions.

Alma voters at the election November 2, will be presented with eight ballots upon which they are expected to express their opinions, and preference. Two of these ballots will relate to city affairs and one will be the regular party ticket. The other five will be proposed amendments to the state constitution.

Alma people generally are familiar to some extent with the bond issue, and the proposed amendment to the city charter on which they will be asked to vote, and they are also familiar with the candidates on the regular tickets.

Few people are familiar, however, with the proposed amendments which will be submitted to the electorate of the state, except possibly in regard to the so-called "parochial school" amendment.

The various proposed amendments to the state constitution follow:

The proposed amendment to Sec. 21 of Article VI of the Constitution is as follows:

"Section 21. The Governor and Attorney General shall each receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars. The Secretary of State, Treasurer and Auditor General shall each receive such annual salary as may be prescribed by law. They shall receive no fees or perquisites whatever for the performance of any duties connected with the office."

This proposed amendment, if adopted, will authorize and empower the Legislature to fix the compensation of certain State officers.

The proposed amendment to Sec. 1 of Article III of the Constitution is as follows:

"Section 1. In all elections every inhabitant of this State being a citizen of the United States; every inhabitant of this State on the twenty-fourth day of June, eighteen hundred thirty-five; every inhabitant residing in this State on the first day of January, eighteen hundred fifty; every male inhabitant of foreign birth, who having resided in the State two years and six months prior to the eighth day of November, eighteen hundred ninety-four, and having declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States two years and six months prior to said last named day, and who shall have completed his naturalization prior to January first, nineteen hundred twenty-four; the wife of any inhabitant of foreign birth who, having resided in the State two years and six months prior to the eighth day of November, eighteen hundred ninety-four, and having declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States two years and six months prior to said last named day, and who shall have completed his naturalization prior to January one, nineteen hundred twenty-four; and every civilized inhabitant of Indian descent, a native of the United States, shall be an elector and entitled to vote; but no one shall be an elector and entitled to vote at any election, unless he or she shall be above the age of twenty-one years and has resided in this State six months, and in the township or ward in which he or she offers to vote twenty days next preceding such election: Provided, That no qualified elector in the actual military service of the United States or of this State or in the army or navy thereof, or any student while in attendance at any institution of learning, or any person engaged in teaching in the public schools of this State, or any regularly enrolled member of any citizens' military or naval training camp, held under the authority of the government of the United States or the State of Michigan, or any member of the Legislature while in attendance at a session of the Legislature, or said member's immediate family during such time, or commercial traveler, or any qualified elector employed upon or in the operation of railroad trains in this State, or any sailor engaged and employed on the Great Lakes or in coastwise trade, shall be deprived of a vote by reason of absence from the township, ward or State in which he or she resides; and the Legislature shall provide by law the manner in which such absent electors may vote and for the canvass and return of their votes: Provided further, That the Legislature shall have power to pass laws covering qualified electors who may be necessarily absent from other causes than above specified: And provided further, that there shall be no denial of the elective franchise at any election on account of sex."

This proposed amendment, if adopted, will extend the absent voters' privileges to teachers in the public schools, and the immediate family of any member of the legislature (Continued on page four)